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The Central Intelligence Agency And the University Community

CENTRAL Intelligence Agency activity on campus represents an obvious danger to the University community. Already, it appears, serious damage has been done to the University and its social research institutes.

When a fellow researcher or foreign social scientist discusses his work with a University faculty member, he can never be sure that information will not be passed to the CIA.

A visitor from a country which may be "politically hostile" to the United States cannot be assured University personnel are not spying on his activities and reporting them to the CIA.

THE MOST disturbing aspect of the matter is that no one outside the CIA knows whether anyone at the University is integrally working for the agency and what information they might be providing.

Even President Robben W. Fleming was unaware of the degree of CIA involvement in the University.

Harvard and other reputable universities have recognized the danger of CIA contacts to a free and open academic community, and these schools have banned any institutional involvement with that agency.

Michigan State University obviously was not aware of the danger, for it was rocked by a scandal that seriously damaged that university's reputation when Ramparts magazine disclosed that from 1955-59 MSU staffers were used by the CIA as a front to train secret police for former South Vietnamese dictator Ngo Dinh Diem.

FURTHERMORE, CIA activity cannot be selectively precluded. It is simply impossible to determine for what purpose the CIA is using any information released to them. Seemingly innocuous information may be used by the CIA for totally unacceptable purposes.

Even if it were possible for University

personnel to determine the consequences of their aid to the CIA, this will still not justify the submission of information to the agency. Such a decision is clearly a political matter. As an institution the University has no right to approve or condone CIA activity.

And when the University permits its employees to provide research information to the CIA, it is giving tacit approval to the purposes for which the information is being used.

The next question which arises is whether we can trust the CIA to be prudent in their use of University personnel and facilities. The MSU affair, National Student Association scandal and other recent disclosures are compelling evidence to the contrary.

The inherent secrecy of any CIA activity on campus is reason enough to ban such activity. And as for CIA infiltration of student government and radical student groups—as was attempted here—it is not only inexcusable but really somewhat puzzling. The CIA was set up by Congress in 1947 because of the failure of our government to anticipate the bombing of Pearl Harbor. It was never intended to have an internal security function.

THERE are other more serious dangers inherent in allowing CIA activity on campus. As explained by an official of the Institute for Social Research, University personnel may be placing themselves and their colleagues in considerable danger if they attend conferences in countries whose security police have reason to believe they or their associates are collaborating with the CIA.

The demand of the Student Government Council that there be an immediate investigation into CIA activity at the University should be met. Until the academic community determines the propriety of CIA activity, there can only exist an odious aura of doubt and mistrust.

—STEVE NISSEN

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CIA-Faculty Links Revealed at U. of Michigan

Special to The Maroon

Central Intelligence Agents have infiltrated the Institute for Social Research (ISR) at the University of Michigan, The Michigan Daily revealed yesterday and today.

The investigation, published in The Daily, shows:

- There have been at least six contacts between CIA agents and the ISR in recent years. Several resulted in "some interchange of information."
- CIA activity in the ISR is becoming a significant problem, and the Institute's executive committee is considering placing restrictions on contacts between ISR personnel and the CIA.
- Four Michigan professors met with six CIA agents in 1966 to discuss the possibility of using university faculty members and facilities to train CIA agents.

CIA activity in the ISR has been documented by The Daily's investigation. One high ISR official has admitted that several contacts were productive for the CIA but says the significance of the information provided was minimal.

Many of the contacts were not consummated—that is, they involved personnel who rebuffed the CIA or refused to meet with CIA agents, explained Professor Arnold Tannedaum, of Michigan's de-

partment of psychology, and who is program director of the ISR's Survey Research Center.

Four Categories

All these contacts were initiated directly by agents of the CIA. According to Tannedaum, information requested from ISR personnel falls into four categories:

- Obtaining information from researchers concerning their observations abroad.
- Obtaining information about for-

feign visitors to the ISR.

- Eliciting co-operation to observe and report in the future about a particular foreign visitor.
- Obtaining information about former ISR employees.